TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2465 - SB 2572

February 16, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (013823): Authorizes healthcare prescribers to prescribe an opioid antagonist or similarly acting drug to an organization, or municipal or county entity that may be in a position to assist an individual at risk of experiencing a drug-related overdose. Expands the definitions of a drug-related overdose and opioid antagonist.

Deletes provision requiring a health care prescriber establish good faith for prescribing a drug antagonist by requiring a written communication from the person to whom the prescription is issued. Specifies civil immunity for persons administering an antagonist.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed legislation expands the definition of drug-related overdose to include an
 overdose from any drug, not just an opioid, and to include the conditions of
 unresponsiveness, decreased levels of consciousness, or respiratory depression as
 overdose symptoms. It further expands the definition of opioid antagonist to include
 similarly acting and equally safe drugs approved by the U.S. FDA for the treatment of a
 drug-related overdose.
- Expanding these definitions will not significantly impact state or local government expenditures.
- No longer requiring a health care prescriber to require a written communication from the person to whom the prescription is issued will not impact state of local resources.
- Any impact related to civil court cases will be borne by private parties to civil actions. This legislation will not significantly impact courts' caseloads.
- This legislation does not require DOH to supply, administer, store, or fund opioid antagonists.
- According to information provided by DOH, the proposed legislation would not require
 any increase of resources or personnel and would, therefore, have no significant fiscal
 impact.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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